

**MINUTES OF THE
PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2008

At a meeting of the **Planning and Economic Development Committee**, held Tuesday, December 2, 2008, in the Board Room, on the 9th Floor of the Administration Building, Mount Clemens, the following members were present:

Vosburg-Chair, Brown, Camphous-Peterson, DeSaele, DiMaria, Drolet, Duzyj, Gielegghem, Mijac, Rengert and Crouchman (ex-officio).

Absent and excused were Brdak (death in family), Haggerty and Roberts.

Other Commissioners Also Present:

Commissioner Bruley

There being a quorum of the committee present, Chair Vosburg called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

AGENDA

Chair Vosburg informed committee members that for item #7 there was a substitute resolution attached to the final agenda. She called for a motion to adopt the agenda, as amended.

MOTION

A motion was made by Rengert, supported by Camphous-Peterson, to adopt the agenda, as amended. **The Motion Carried.**

MINUTES

MOTION

A motion was made by DeSaele, supported by Duzyj, to approve the September 9, 2008 minutes of this committee, as written. **The Motion Carried.**

After the vote, the following commissioners spoke: Camphous-Peterson and Chair Vosburg.

AUTHORIZE THE BOARD CHAIR TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENT WITH THE SIX RIVERS REGIONAL LAND CONSERVANCY FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A CONSERVATION EASEMENT

Mr. Gerard Santoro introduced Ms. Donna Folland, Executive Director, Six Rivers Regional Land Conservancy who was in attendance. He recognized Mr. Gene Schabath from the Public Works Department who was present.

Mr. Santoro gave a PowerPoint presentation entitled, James B. & Ann V. Nicholson Nature Center and Floodplain Conservation Easement. Key topics covered included: Existing Macomb County Parcels, Joint Effort of the Following Agencies, James B. & Ann V. Nicholson Nature Center and Floodplain Conservation Easement, Macomb County Board of Commissioners Actions (Objectives), Presentation to Macomb County Board of Commissioners, Existing Macomb County Parcels, Potential Wetlands, Michigan Significant Natural Feature, Adjacent Parcels, Current Study Area, Secondary Study Area, Tertiary Study Area, Press Release: December 2008, and Dedication: May 2009.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION

A MOTION WAS MADE BY CAMPHOUS-PETERSON, SUPPORTED BY RENGERT, TO RECOMMEND THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AUTHORIZE THE BOARD CHAIR TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENT WITH THE SIX RIVERS REGIONAL LAND CONSERVANCY, SUBJECT TO A PRIVATE PHILANTHROPIC CONTRIBUTION OF \$150,000, FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A CONSERVATION EASEMENT.

The following commissioners spoke: DeSaele, Drolet, Chair Vosburg, Duzyj and Gieleghem.

Chair Vosburg called for a vote on the motion and **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

GRANT THE NAME OF THE CONSERVATION EASEMENT TO BE “JAMES B. & ANN V. NICHOLSON NATURE CENTER AND FLOODPLAIN CONSERVATION EASEMENT”

A substitute resolution was attached to the final agenda and the final agenda was corrected accordingly.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION

A MOTION WAS MADE BY RENGERT, SUPPORTED BY CAMPHOUS-PETERSON, TO RECOMMEND THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS GRANT THE NAME OF THE CONSERVATION EASEMENT TO BE “JAMES B. & ANN V. NICHOLSON NATURE CENTER AND FLOODPLAIN CONSERVATION EASEMENT,” SUBJECT TO A PHILANTHROPIC CONTRIBUTION OF \$150,000.

The following commissioners spoke: DeSaele and Chair Vosburg.

Chair Vosburg called for a vote on the motion and **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

**PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Cassin reminded commissioners about a film meeting that will be held this Friday at the MISD at 9 a.m. He spoke about topics that will be discussed at that meeting.

There have been several meeting that his staff attended; in fact he and Mr. Diegel attended a meeting with the Governor's Office in regards to the regions response to the downturn of the automotive industry. There has subsequently been several subcommittees that they have been involved in and are continuing to work together with state agencies and the three or four counties in the area to determine what resources we have and can make available to mostly those unemployed workers when they do lose their jobs.

Lastly, he gave an update on legislation that has gone through the state on the renaissance zones. Both Oakland and Macomb, and now the City of Detroit and Monroe are strongly opposed to this legislation.

MOTION

A motion was made by DeSaele, supported by Gielegghem, to receive and file the departmental report from Mr. Stephen Cassin, Executive Director, Planning and Economic Development Department. **The Motion Carried.**

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION

A motion was made by Duzyj, supported by DeSaele, to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 a.m. **The Motion Carried.**

Denise M. Jacks
Committee Reporter